

Commissioner's Weekly Wrap Up

DCS Communications Office

February 27, 2004

This Week In Central Office

Monday, February 23

- Commissioner Miller was a featured speaker at the Juvenile and Family Court Judges Convention in Nashville.
- Commissioner Miller presented an update on the Governor's Children's Cabinet to the Tennessee General Assembly's Select Committee on Children and Youth. A corresponding news article is provided below:
www.knoxnews.com/kns/state/article/0,1406,KNS_348_2678176,00.html

Wednesday, February 25

- Commissioner Miller made a brief budget presentation to the Senate General Welfare Committee. The corresponding news articles are provided below:
www.nashvillecitypaper.com/index.cfm?section=9&screen=news&news_id=31031
www.tennessean.com/local/archives/04/02/47426286.shtml?Element_ID=47426286
- Commissioner Miller visited with the *Tulahoma News* editorial board regarding Governor Bredesen's proposed TennCare plan. The corresponding editorial is provided below:
www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?BRD=1614&dept_id=161055&newsid=11031484&PAG=461&rft=9

For more information on the Governor's TennCare initiative, please follow the provided link: <http://www.state.tn.us/governor/tenncare.htm>

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The Week Ahead

Monday, March 1

Commissioner Miller will travel to the South Central Region for a field visit!

Staff Contact: Carla.Aaron@state.tn.us

Thursday, March 4

Commissioner Miller will give a brief budget presentation to the House Finance, Ways & Means Committee.

Friday, March 5

Commissioner Miller will travel to the North West Region for a field visit!

Staff Contact: Carla.Aaron@state.tn.us

Team Excellence Challenge Update!

The *Team Excellence Challenge* interview process is currently Underway and will continue into next week. We expect Phase I division directors to be announced very soon!



Communications Update!

- ✓ The month of March is designated *Employee Assistance Awareness Month* to emphasize the value of services available through our Employee Assistance Program.

The program provides professional, confidential services to full-time state employees and eligible dependents. Employees and their family members may seek counseling and referral services to help deal with stress, marital problems, family and child rearing issues, chemical dependency, emotional difficulties, and financial and legal matters.

Please see page 4 of this document for details!

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Communications Update, Cont'd

- ✓ Thank you for emailing us your favorite motivational and leadership quotes! Please continue sending them to: Sarah.beth.davis@state.tn.us. Please be sure to type "Motivational Quote" in the subject line. Thanks!

Be the change you wish to **see** in the world.

~ Mahatma Gandhi

You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't **try**.

~ Beverly Sills, American Opera Singer

Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of intelligent **effort**.

~John Ruskin

March is *Employee Assistance Program Awareness Month*

We often face challenges that affect our personal and professional lives. However, it is important to recognize that many things are going on, and to identify strategies to energize others and ourselves. The month of March is designated *Employee Assistance Awareness Month* to emphasize the value of services available through our Employee Assistance Program.

The program provides professional, confidential services to full-time state employees and eligible dependents. Employees and their family members may seek counseling and referral services to help deal with stress, marital problems, family and child rearing issues, chemical dependency, emotional difficulties, and financial and legal matters.

The short-term counseling (up to six sessions) and referral services are provided by EAP counselors at no cost to the employee. If greater assistance is necessary, an employee will be referred to other professional treatment resources. Those services may be covered by your health insurance plan.

Seminars on the topic “Recognizing the Positives—Catching Others at Their Best” will focus on strengthening positive experiences in our every day life—family relationships, work environment, and social contacts. These will be held at more than 44 sites to enable employees to participate in this personal enhancement activity. Check your paycheck stub for dates and times for the seminar.

For off-site counseling or referral services call United Behavioral Health at 1-877-237-8574.

You may also utilize their interactive website at www.liveandworkwell.com for services. The access code is 11320.

For more information about the Employee Assistance Program and its awareness month activities, please contact your central, regional, or institutional personnel staff or residential treatment facilities’ director. For specific questions, please contact United Behavioral Health at the number listed.